

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 23, 27, 32, 35, 38, 41 and 43 are currently being amended. No claims are being added or deleted. The changes to claims 27, 32, 38, 41 and 43 merely clarify the claims, and are not substantive. Exemplary support for the changes to claims 23 and 35 exists in original claim 1. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 22-44 will remain pending in the application.

II. Request for Consideration without Regard to the Previous Restriction Requirement and Election

Pursuant to MPEP § 819, Applicants request that the restriction requirement (and Applicants' election) made in the parent application not carry over to the present CPA. In a paper filed on March 6, 2002, Applicants amended the claims of the parent application. The Examiner entered the claim amendments, yet indicated that the amended claims did not correspond to the elected invention. *See* Office Action mailed on February 11, 2003. With the filing of this CPA, Applicants request consideration of the pending claims without regard to the previous restriction requirement.

II. Concluding Remarks

Applicants await an early and favorable action on the present application. If the Examiner believes that an interview would advance prosecution, she is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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By



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